



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 287

LCO No. 2057



Referred to Committee on VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Introduced by:
(VA)

***AN ACT CONCERNING TUITION AND FEE WAIVERS FOR VETERANS
AND MEMBERS OF THE CONNECTICUT NATIONAL GUARD AT
PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsections (d) to (g), inclusive, of section 10a-77 of the
2 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

4 (d) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition at any
5 of the regional community-technical colleges (1) for any dependent
6 child of a person whom the armed forces of the United States has
7 declared to be missing in action or to have been a prisoner of war
8 while serving in such armed forces after January 1, 1960, which child
9 has been accepted for admission to such institution and is a resident of
10 Connecticut at the time such child is accepted for admission to such
11 institution, (2) subject to the provisions of subsection (e) of this section,
12 for any veteran who performed service in time of war, as defined in
13 subsection (a) of section 27-103, [except that for purposes of this
14 subsection, "service in time of war" shall not include time spent in

15 attendance at a military service academy,] who has been accepted for
16 admission to such institution and is domiciled in this state at the time
17 such veteran is accepted for admission to such institution, except that
18 for purposes of this subsection, "service in time of war" shall not
19 include time spent in attendance at a military service academy, and
20 except that said board of trustees shall also waive for any such veteran
21 the payment of any extension fees for educational extension programs
22 and summer school sessions, as described in section 10a-26, (3) for any
23 resident of Connecticut sixty-two years of age or older, provided, at
24 the end of the regular registration period, there are enrolled in the
25 course a sufficient number of students other than those persons
26 eligible for waivers pursuant to this subdivision to offer the course in
27 which such person intends to enroll and there is space available in
28 such course after accommodating all such students, (4) for any student
29 attending the Connecticut State Police Academy who is enrolled in a
30 law enforcement program at said academy offered in coordination
31 with a regional community-technical college which accredits courses
32 taken in such program, (5) for any active member of the Connecticut
33 Army or Air National Guard who (A) has been certified by the
34 Adjutant General or such Adjutant General's designee as a member in
35 good standing of the guard, and (B) is enrolled or accepted for
36 admission to such institution on a full-time or part-time basis in an
37 undergraduate degree-granting program, except that said board of
38 trustees shall also waive for any such member the payment of any
39 extension fees for educational extension programs and summer school
40 sessions, as described in section 10a-26, (6) for any dependent child of
41 a (A) police officer, as defined in section 7-294a, or supernumerary or
42 auxiliary police officer, (B) firefighter, as defined in section 7-323j, or
43 member of a volunteer fire company, (C) municipal employee, or (D)
44 state employee, as defined in section 5-154, killed in the line of duty,
45 (7) for any resident of the state who is a dependent child or surviving
46 spouse of a specified terrorist victim who was a resident of this state,
47 (8) for any dependent child of a resident of the state who was killed in
48 a multivehicle crash at or near the intersection of Routes 44 and 10 and

49 Nod Road in Avon on July 29, 2005, and (9) for any resident of the state
50 who is a dependent child or surviving spouse of a person who was
51 killed in action while performing active military duty with the armed
52 forces of the United States on or after September 11, 2001, and who
53 was a resident of this state. If any person who receives a tuition waiver
54 in accordance with the provisions of this subsection also receives
55 educational reimbursement from an employer, such waiver shall be
56 reduced by the amount of such educational reimbursement. Veterans
57 described in subdivision (2) of this subsection and members of the
58 National Guard described in subdivision (5) of this subsection shall be
59 given the same status as students not receiving tuition waivers in
60 registering for courses at regional community-technical colleges.
61 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10a-30, as used in this
62 subsection, "domiciled in this state" includes domicile for less than one
63 year.

64 (e) (1) If any veteran described in subsection (d) of this section has
65 applied for federal educational assistance under the Post-9/11
66 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, the board of trustees shall
67 waive the payment of tuition and extension fees at any of the regional
68 community-technical colleges for such veteran in accordance with
69 subdivision (2) of this subsection. If any such veteran certifies to said
70 board of trustees that such veteran's application for such federal
71 educational assistance has been denied or withdrawn, said board of
72 trustees shall waive the payment of tuition and extension fees in
73 accordance with subsection (d) of this section.

74 (2) (A) For purposes of this subdivision, "veteran tuition benefit"
75 means the portion of federal educational assistance under the Post-
76 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 to be paid to a
77 regional community-technical college on behalf of a veteran that
78 represents payment for tuition and extension fees. Such portion shall
79 be calculated by multiplying (i) the total amount of such federal
80 educational assistance to be paid to a regional community-technical
81 college on behalf of such veteran by (ii) an amount obtained by

82 dividing (I) the actual tuition and extension fees charged by such
83 college to such veteran by (II) the sum of the actual tuition, extension
84 fees and other fees charged by such college to such veteran.

85 (B) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition and
86 extension fees in excess of the veteran tuition benefit at any of the
87 regional community-technical colleges for such veteran.

88 (f) Said board of trustees shall set aside from its anticipated regional
89 community-technical college tuition revenue, an amount not less than
90 that required by said board's tuition policy. Such funds shall be used to
91 provide tuition waivers, tuition remissions, grants for educational
92 expenses and student employment for residents enrolled in regional
93 community-technical colleges as full or part-time matriculated
94 students in a degree-granting program, or enrolled in a precollege
95 remedial program, who demonstrate substantial financial need. Said
96 board may also set aside from its anticipated tuition revenue an
97 additional amount equal to one per cent of said tuition revenue for
98 financial assistance for students who would not otherwise be eligible
99 for financial assistance but who do have a financial need as determined
100 by the college in accordance with this subsection. In determining such
101 financial need, the college shall exclude the value of equity in the
102 principal residence of the student's parents or legal guardians, or in the
103 student's principal residence if the student is not considered to be a
104 dependent of his parents or legal guardians and shall assess the
105 earnings of a dependent student at the rate of thirty per cent.

106 (g) The Regional Community-Technical Colleges Operating Fund
107 shall be reimbursed for the amount by which the tuition and extension
108 fee waivers granted under subsection (d) of this section exceed five per
109 cent of tuition revenue through an annual state appropriation. The
110 board of trustees shall request such an appropriation and said
111 appropriation shall be based upon an estimate of tuition and extension
112 fee revenue loss using tuition and extension fee rates in effect for the
113 fiscal year in which such appropriation will apply.

114 Sec. 2. Subsections (d) to (g), inclusive, of section 10a-99 of the
115 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
116 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

117 (d) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition fees at
118 the Connecticut State University System (1) for any dependent child of
119 a person whom the armed forces of the United States has declared to
120 be missing in action or to have been a prisoner of war while serving in
121 such armed forces after January 1, 1960, which child has been accepted
122 for admission to such institution and is a resident of Connecticut at the
123 time such child is accepted for admission to such institution, (2) subject
124 to the provisions of subsection (e) of this section, for any veteran who
125 performed service in time of war, as defined in subsection (a) of section
126 27-103, [except that for purposes of this subsection, "service in time of
127 war" shall not include time spent in attendance at a military service
128 academy,] who has been accepted for admission to such institution
129 and is domiciled in this state at the time such veteran is accepted for
130 admission to such institution, except that for purposes of this
131 subsection, "service in time of war" shall not include time spent in
132 attendance at a military service academy, and except that said board of
133 trustees shall also waive for any such veteran the payment of any
134 extension fees for educational extension programs and summer school
135 sessions, as described in section 10a-26, (3) for any resident of
136 Connecticut sixty-two years of age or older who has been accepted for
137 admission to such institution, provided (A) such person is enrolled in a
138 degree-granting program, or (B) at the end of the regular registration
139 period, there are enrolled in the course a sufficient number of students
140 other than those persons eligible for waivers pursuant to this
141 subdivision to offer the course in which such person intends to enroll
142 and there is space available in such course after accommodating all
143 such students, (4) for any student attending the Connecticut Police
144 Academy who is enrolled in a law enforcement program at said
145 academy offered in coordination with the university which accredits
146 courses taken in such program, (5) for any active member of the

147 Connecticut Army or Air National Guard who (A) has been certified
148 by the Adjutant General or such Adjutant General's designee as a
149 member in good standing of the guard, and (B) is enrolled or accepted
150 for admission to such institution on a full-time or part-time basis in an
151 undergraduate or graduate degree-granting program, except that said
152 board of trustees shall also waive for any such member the payment of
153 any extension fees for educational extension programs and summer
154 school sessions, as described in section 10a-26, (6) for any dependent
155 child of a (A) police officer, as defined in section 7-294a, or
156 supernumerary or auxiliary police officer, (B) firefighter, as defined in
157 section 7-323j, or member of a volunteer fire company, (C) municipal
158 employee, or (D) state employee, as defined in section 5-154, killed in
159 the line of duty, (7) for any resident of this state who is a dependent
160 child or surviving spouse of a specified terrorist victim who was a
161 resident of the state, (8) for any dependent child of a resident of the
162 state who was killed in a multivehicle crash at or near the intersection
163 of Routes 44 and 10 and Nod Road in Avon on July 29, 2005, and (9)
164 for any resident of the state who is a dependent child or surviving
165 spouse of a person who was killed in action while performing active
166 military duty with the armed forces of the United States on or after
167 September 11, 2001, and who was a resident of this state. If any person
168 who receives a tuition waiver in accordance with the provisions of this
169 subsection also receives educational reimbursement from an employer,
170 such waiver shall be reduced by the amount of such educational
171 reimbursement. Veterans described in subdivision (2) of this
172 subsection and members of the National Guard described in
173 subdivision (5) of this subsection shall be given the same status as
174 students not receiving tuition waivers in registering for courses at
175 Connecticut state universities. Notwithstanding the provisions of
176 section 10a-30, as used in this subsection, "domiciled in this state"
177 includes domicile for less than one year.

178 (e) (1) If any veteran described in subsection (d) of this section has
179 applied for federal educational assistance under the Post-9/11

180 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, the board of trustees shall
181 waive the payment of tuition and extension fees at the Connecticut
182 State University System for such veteran in accordance with
183 subdivision (2) of this subsection. If any such veteran certifies to said
184 board of trustees that such veteran's application for such federal
185 educational assistance has been denied or withdrawn, said board of
186 trustees shall waive the payment of tuition and extension fees in
187 accordance with subsection (d) of this section.

188 (2) (A) For purposes of this subdivision, "veteran tuition benefit"
189 means the portion of federal educational assistance under the Post-
190 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 to be paid to the
191 Connecticut State University System on behalf of a veteran that
192 represents payment for tuition and extension fees. Such portion shall
193 be calculated by multiplying (i) the total amount of such federal
194 educational assistance to be paid to the Connecticut State University
195 System on behalf of such veteran by (ii) an amount obtained by
196 dividing (I) the actual tuition and extension fees charged by the
197 Connecticut State University System to such veteran by (II) the sum of
198 the actual tuition, extension fees and other fees charged by the
199 Connecticut State University System to such veteran.

200 (B) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition and
201 extension fees in excess of the veteran tuition benefit at the Connecticut
202 State University System for such veteran.

203 (f) Said board of trustees shall set aside from its anticipated tuition
204 revenue, an amount not less than that required by the board of
205 governors' tuition policy established under subdivision (3) of
206 subsection (a) of section 10a-6. Such funds shall be used to provide
207 tuition waivers, tuition remissions, grants for educational expenses
208 and student employment for any undergraduate or graduate student
209 who is enrolled as a full or part-time matriculated student in a degree-
210 granting program, or enrolled in a precollege remedial program, and
211 who demonstrates substantial financial need. Said board may also set

212 aside from its anticipated tuition revenue an additional amount equal
213 to one per cent of said tuition revenue for financial assistance for
214 students who would not otherwise be eligible for financial assistance
215 but who do have a financial need as determined by the university in
216 accordance with this subsection. In determining such financial need,
217 the university shall exclude the value of equity in the principal
218 residence of the student's parents or legal guardians, or in the student's
219 principal residence if the student is not considered to be a dependent
220 of his parents or legal guardians and shall assess the earnings of a
221 dependent student at the rate of thirty per cent.

222 (g) The Connecticut State University System Operating Fund shall
223 be reimbursed for the amount by which the tuition and extension fee
224 waivers granted under subsection (d) of this section exceed two and
225 one-half per cent of tuition revenue and extension fee through an
226 annual state appropriation. The board of trustees shall request such an
227 appropriation and said appropriation shall be based upon an estimate
228 of tuition and extension fees revenue loss using tuition and extension
229 fee rates in effect for the fiscal year in which such appropriation will
230 apply.

231 Sec. 3. Subsections (e) to (h), inclusive, of section 10a-105 of the 2016
232 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
233 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

234 (e) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition fees at
235 The University of Connecticut (1) for any dependent child of a person
236 whom the armed forces of the United States has declared to be missing
237 in action or to have been a prisoner of war while serving in such armed
238 forces after January 1, 1960, which child has been accepted for
239 admission to The University of Connecticut and is a resident of
240 Connecticut at the time such child is accepted for admission to said
241 institution, (2) subject to the provisions of subsection (f) of this section,
242 for any veteran who performed service in time of war, as defined in
243 subsection (a) of section 27-103, [except that for purposes of this

244 subsection, "service in time of war" shall not include time spent in
245 attendance at a military service academy,] who has been accepted for
246 admission to said institution and is domiciled in this state at the time
247 such veteran is accepted for admission to said institution, except that
248 for purposes of this subsection, "service in time of war" shall not
249 include time spent in attendance at a military service academy, and
250 except that said board of trustees shall also waive for any such veteran
251 the payment of any extension fees for educational extension programs
252 and summer school sessions, as described in section 10a-26, (3) for any
253 resident of Connecticut sixty-two years of age or older who has been
254 accepted for admission to said institution, provided (A) such person is
255 enrolled in a degree-granting program, or (B) at the end of the regular
256 registration period, there are enrolled in the course a sufficient number
257 of students other than those persons eligible for waivers pursuant to
258 this subdivision to offer the course in which such person intends to
259 enroll and there is space available in such course after accommodating
260 all such students, (4) for any active member of the Connecticut Army
261 or Air National Guard who (A) has been certified by the Adjutant
262 General or such Adjutant General's designee as a member in good
263 standing of the guard, and (B) is enrolled or accepted for admission to
264 said institution on a full-time or part-time basis in an undergraduate or
265 graduate degree-granting program, except that said board of trustees
266 shall also waive for any such member the payment of any extension
267 fees for educational extension programs and summer school sessions,
268 as described in section 10a-26, (5) for any dependent child of a (A)
269 police officer, as defined in section 7-294a, or supernumerary or
270 auxiliary police officer, (B) firefighter, as defined in section 7-323j, or
271 member of a volunteer fire company, (C) municipal employee, or (D)
272 state employee, as defined in section 5-154, killed in the line of duty,
273 (6) for any resident of the state who is the dependent child or surviving
274 spouse of a specified terrorist victim who was a resident of the state,
275 (7) for any dependent child of a resident of the state who was killed in
276 a multivehicle crash at or near the intersection of Routes 44 and 10 and
277 Nod Road in Avon on July 29, 2005, and (8) for any resident of the state

278 who is a dependent child or surviving spouse of a person who was
279 killed in action while performing active military duty with the armed
280 forces of the United States on or after September 11, 2001, and who
281 was a resident of this state. If any person who receives a tuition waiver
282 in accordance with the provisions of this subsection also receives
283 educational reimbursement from an employer, such waiver shall be
284 reduced by the amount of such educational reimbursement. Veterans
285 described in subdivision (2) of this subsection and members of the
286 National Guard described in subdivision (4) of this subsection shall be
287 given the same status as students not receiving tuition waivers in
288 registering for courses at The University of Connecticut.
289 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10a-30, as used in this
290 subsection, "domiciled in this state" includes domicile for less than one
291 year.

292 (f) (1) If any veteran described in subsection (e) of this section has
293 applied for federal educational assistance under the Post-9/11
294 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, the board of trustees shall
295 waive the payment of tuition and extension fees at The University of
296 Connecticut for such veteran in accordance with subdivision (2) of this
297 subsection. If any such veteran certifies to said board of trustees that
298 such veteran's application for such federal educational assistance has
299 been denied or withdrawn, said board of trustees shall waive the
300 payment of tuition and extension fees in accordance with subsection
301 (d) of this section.

302 (2) (A) For purposes of this subdivision, "veteran tuition benefit"
303 means the portion of federal educational assistance under the Post-
304 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 to be paid to The
305 University of Connecticut on behalf of a veteran that represents
306 payment for tuition and extension fees. Such portion shall be
307 calculated by multiplying (i) the total amount of such federal
308 educational assistance to be paid to The University of Connecticut on
309 behalf of such veteran by (ii) an amount obtained by dividing (I) the
310 actual tuition and extension fees charged by The University of

311 Connecticut to such veteran by (II) the sum of the actual tuition,
312 extension fees and other fees charged by The University of Connecticut
313 to such veteran.

314 (B) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition and
315 extension fees in excess of the veteran tuition benefit at The University
316 of Connecticut for such veteran.

317 (g) Said board of trustees shall set aside from its anticipated tuition
318 revenue, an amount not less than that required by the board of
319 governors' tuition policy established under subdivision (3) of
320 subsection (a) of section 10a-6. Such funds shall be used to provide
321 tuition waivers, tuition remissions, grants for educational expenses
322 and student employment for any undergraduate, graduate or
323 professional student who is enrolled as a full or part-time matriculated
324 student in a degree-granting program, or enrolled in a precollege
325 remedial program, and who demonstrates substantial financial need.
326 Said board may also set aside from its anticipated tuition revenue an
327 additional amount equal to one per cent of said tuition revenue for
328 financial assistance for students who would not otherwise be eligible
329 for financial assistance but who do have a financial need as determined
330 by the university in accordance with this subsection. In determining
331 such financial need, the university shall exclude the value of equity in
332 the principal residence of the student's parents or legal guardians, or in
333 the student's principal residence if the student is not considered to be a
334 dependent of his parents or legal guardians and shall assess the
335 earnings of a dependent student at the rate of thirty per cent.

336 (h) The University of Connecticut Operating Fund shall be
337 reimbursed for the amount by which tuition and extension fee waivers
338 granted under subsection (e) of this section exceed two and one-half
339 per cent of tuition and extension fee revenue through an annual state
340 appropriation. The board of trustees shall request such an
341 appropriation and said appropriation shall be based upon an estimate
342 of tuition and extension fee revenue loss using tuition and extension

343 fee rates in effect for the fiscal year in which such appropriation will
344 apply.

345 Sec. 4. Section 10a-143 of the general statutes is amended by adding
346 subsections (h) and (i) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

347 (NEW) (h) The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall waive
348 the payment of course enrollment fees at Charter Oak State College (1)
349 subject to the provisions of subsection (i) of this section, for any
350 veteran who performed service in time of war, as defined in subsection
351 (a) of section 27-103, who has been accepted for admission to Charter
352 Oak State College and is domiciled in this state at the time such
353 veteran is accepted for admission to said institution, except that for
354 purposes of this subsection, "service in time of war" shall not include
355 time spent in attendance at a military service academy, and (2) for any
356 active member of the Connecticut Army or Air National Guard who
357 (A) has been certified by the Adjutant General or the Adjutant
358 General's designee as a member in good standing of the guard, and (B)
359 is enrolled or accepted for admission to Charter Oak State College on a
360 full-time or part-time basis in a degree-granting program. If any
361 person who receives a course enrollment fee waiver in accordance with
362 the provisions of this subsection also receives educational
363 reimbursement from an employer, such waiver shall be reduced by the
364 amount of such educational reimbursement. Veterans and members of
365 the Connecticut National Guard described in this subsection shall be
366 given the same status as students not receiving course enrollment fee
367 waivers in registering for courses at Charter Oak State College.
368 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10a-30, as used in this
369 subsection, "domiciled in this state" includes domiciled for less than
370 one year.

371 (NEW) (i) (1) If any veteran described in subsection (h) of this
372 section has applied for federal educational assistance under the Post-
373 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, the Board of
374 Regents for Higher Education shall waive the payment of course

375 enrollment fees at Charter Oak State College for such veteran in
376 accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection. If any such veteran
377 certifies to said board that such veteran's application for such federal
378 educational assistance has been denied or withdrawn, said board shall
379 waive the payment of course enrollment fees in accordance with
380 subsection (h) of this section.

381 (2) (A) For purposes of this subdivision, "veteran tuition benefit"
382 means the portion of federal educational assistance under the Post-
383 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 to be paid to Charter
384 Oak State College on behalf of a veteran that represents payment for
385 course enrollment fees. Such portion shall be calculated by multiplying
386 (i) the total amount of federal educational assistance to be paid to
387 Charter Oak State College on behalf of such veteran by (ii) an amount
388 obtained by dividing (I) the actual course enrollment fees charged by
389 Charter Oak State College to such veteran by (II) the sum of the actual
390 course enrollment fees and other fees charged by Charter Oak State
391 College to such veteran.

392 (B) The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall waive the
393 payment of course enrollment fees in excess of the veteran tuition
394 benefit at Charter Oak State College for such veteran.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-77(d) to (g)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-99(d) to (g)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-105(e) to (h)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10a-143

Statement of Purpose:

To waive payment of any tuition, course enrollment fees and certain other fees for veterans and members of the Connecticut National Guard enrolled at any public institutions of higher education in this state.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]